SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 522 By Burks

A RESOLUTION to designate the week of April 19-25, 1998 as "National Crime Victims' Rights Week" in Tennessee.

WHEREAS, in the United States, a violent crime is committed every 18 seconds; and WHEREAS, 36.9 million Americans are victimized in the United States each year, and of that number, 9.9 million citizens are victims of violent crime; and

WHEREAS, crime victims play a fundamental role in bringing offenders to justice; and WHEREAS, law-abiding citizens are no less deserving of justice, rights, resources, restoration and rehabilitation than the violent offenders who victimize them; and

WHEREAS, over the past two decades, crime victims and their advocates have made unparalleled progress toward balancing the scales of justice in our criminal justice system; and

WHEREAS, the bells of liberty are ringing across America in support of the millions of survivors of crime, their families and advocates, all of whom deserve justice; and

WHEREAS, as a nation devoted to liberty and justice for all, America must increase its efforts to protect, restore and expand crime victims' rights; and

WHEREAS, the state of Tennessee is proud to join forces with victim service programs, criminal justice officials and concerned citizens throughout Tennessee and America to observe "National Crime Victims' Rights Week"; now, therefore,

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BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE-HUNDREDTH GENERAL
ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
CONCURRING, That we hereby designate the week of April 19-25, 1998 as "Crime Victims'
Rights Week" in Tennessee.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That we reaffirm our commitment to address victims' rights and criminal justice issues during the 1998 Tennessee "Crime Victims' Rights Week" and throughout the year.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.

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